

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;
a circular perforation formed coaxially with said substantially flat central portion and said raised side surface and positioned at a border between said substantially flat central portion and said raised side surface; and

a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along an entire width thereof from said circular perforation to an outer edge of said raised side surface;

each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of said circular perforation defining a selectively removable tab, said selectively removable tab including text material thereon,

wherein a shape of said outer edge of said raised side surface is changed when said selectively removable tab is ~~removed~~ completely detached from said raised side surface.

2. (original) The plate of claim 1, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

3. (original) The plate of claim 1, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

4. (currently amended) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;

a plurality of removable tabs positioned substantially axially to said substantially flat central portion and raised side surface, said removable tabs including text material thereon, wherein when at least one of said tabs is ~~removed~~ completely detached from said raised side surface, an outer shape of said plate is changed.

5. (original) The plate of claim 4, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tabs and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

6. (original) The plate of claim 4, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tabs, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

7. (currently amended) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;
a circular perforation formed coaxially with said substantially flat central portion and said raised side surface and positioned within said raised side surface; and
a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along an entire width thereof from said circular perforation to an outer edge of said raised side surface;
each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of said circular perforation defining a selectively removable tab, said selectively removable tab including text material thereon,
wherein a shape of said outer edge of said raised side surface is changed when said selectively removable tab is ~~removed~~ completely detached from said raised side surface.

8. (original) The plate of claim 7, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

9. (original) The plate of claim 7, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

10. – 13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;
and

one or more selectively removable perforated cutouts formed in said raised side surface, each of said selectively removable perforate cutouts including text material thereon,
wherein when at least one of said perforated cutouts is ~~removed completely~~
detached from said raised side surface, an outer shape of said raised side surface is changed.

15. (original) The plate of claim 14, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said selectively removable perforated cutout and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

16. (original) The plate of claim 14, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said selectively removable perforated cutouts, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

17. (original) The plate of claim 14, wherein said plate retains consistent overall diameter even after removal of said selectively removable perforated cutouts.

18. – 35. (canceled)

36. (previously presented) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;
a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along a portion of a width of, and to an outer edge of, said raised side surface;
each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of a circular perforation defining a tab, said tab including text material thereon; and
an adhesive positioned on an underside of said tab;
whereby when said tab is folded under said raised side surface said tab is fixed to the underside of said raised side surface.

37. (original) The plate of claim 36, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

38. (original) The plate of claim 36, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

39. (original) The plate of claim 36, wherein additional text material is printed on said raised side surface adjacent said tab, said additional text material comprising a question, and said text material printed on said tab comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

40. – 62. (canceled)

63. (previously presented) A plate for generating conversations, comprising:
a substantially flat central portion for holding an object;
a raised side surface positioned coaxially with said substantially flat central portion;

a plurality of axial perforations formed in said raised side surface extending along a portion of a width of, and to an outer edge of, said raised side surface;

each adjacent pair of said plurality of axial perforations and a corresponding portion of a circular perforation defining a tab, said tab including text material thereon; and

an adhesive positioned on said tab;

whereby when said tab is folded against said raised side surface said tab is fixed to said raised side surface.

64. (previously presented) The plate of claim 63, wherein said text material is printed on an upper surface of said tab and comprises an open-ended opinion-evoking statement.

65. (previously presented) The plate of claim 63, wherein said text material is printed on both an upper and lower surface of said tab, said text material printed on said upper surface comprising a question, and said text material printed on said lower surface comprising a corresponding answer to said question.

66. (previously presented) The plate of claim 63, wherein additional text material is printed on said raised side surface adjacent said tab, said additional text material comprising a question, and said text material printed on said tab comprising a corresponding answer to said question.